

**STATE SENATOR • MARTHA G. SCOTT**

# **Scott Press Release**

P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • (517) 373-7748



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT: STATE SEN. MARTHA G. SCOTT**  
PHONE: 517/373-7748

## **SEN. SCOTT: ST. JOHN HEALTH SYSTEMS SHOULD FULFILL ITS COMMITMENTS**

**Highland Park Democrat Asks That Hospital Continue to Provide Inpatient Care**

LANSING- State Senator Martha G. Scott (D-Highland Park) expressed disappointment and dissatisfaction today with the decision of St. John Health Systems to eliminate almost 300 beds at Northeast Community Hospital, making the facility strictly an outpatient clinic. Senator Scott, who met with hospital administrators today, called upon officials at St. John Health Systems to honor commitments they made to the community when they acquired the hospital.

“When St. John acquired Holy Cross Hospital, they made a commitment to the Detroit community that they would keep operating the hospital as an inpatient facility,” said Sen. Scott. “NorthEast Community Hospital is a profitable facility providing a vital service to the community. There is no justification, in my opinion, for St. John reneging on their obligations to our community.”

NorthEast turned a profit of about \$900,000 during the 2003 fiscal year at a time when many Detroit hospitals were operating in the red. The hospital- which would be closing 292 inpatient beds- treated 5,000 people last year.

“Closing NorthEast Community Hospital as an inpatient facility will cause residents to have to travel farther to receive critical medical attention,” said Sen. Scott. “Transportation is a real

problem for many in Detroit and any delay in receiving medical attention can be life threatening.”

Sen. Scott pledged that she is prepared to work with St. John Health Systems to do whatever is necessary to keep NorthEast Community Hospital operating as an inpatient facility.

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